

FACTS ABOUT EAST TENNESSEE.

Greasy Cove, Cumberland County.

No. XXII.

The following letter has been handed us for publication:

Greasy Cove is a small valley, situated a little south of a straight line from Nashville to Knoxville, about 120 miles from the former and 75 miles from the latter place.

This valley is about 400 feet below the table lands of Cumberland Mountain. On two sides of the Cove, however, the mountains are much higher than the surrounding country, being 600 to 800 feet above the table lands. The Cove contains nearly 9,000 acres of land, and is about 6 miles long by 2½ wide. The soil is exceedingly fertile, producing large crops of corn, potatoes, rye, oats, hay, wheat, &c. It is what is termed lime-stone soil, and is, therefore, very lasting. There are portions of this land that have been cultivated—or rather cropped; i. e., have been plowed and planted every year for sixty years. This kind of farming is, of course, very exhaustive to the soil, and although there is a continual draft on the land in this way, there is nothing returned to it in the way of manure—artificially—and this style of farming has been going on ever since the country has been settled. The present richness of the soil is accounted for in this way:

The sides of the mountains around the Cove being covered with limestone, which wastes and washes down, supply the Cove with a material manure, thus enabling the soil to sustain this heavy cropping from year to year without the addition of any other fertilizer. Here we have the advantage over most other countries of a good soil, that is inexhaustible. This is the first essential of a farming country.

The next thing to good soil for a farming country is pure water. This we have in abundance. Cove Creek runs almost the entire length of the Cove. Then there are many smaller streams flowing into the creek with a great quantity of springs issuing out from the mountain, and making towards the creek—and it would be a rare thing to find a hundred acres of land in Greasy Cove without a good spring on it; and there are usually two, three or four on a hundred acres. Cove Creek is large enough to run both a grist and saw mill the greater part of the year, and a grist mill alone all the time.

The climate of this section is peculiar. While we are able to produce the crops of the North almost, if not quite equal to the North, we are also able to grow the products of the South. Winter apples, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, oats, hay, peanuts &c., grow here side by side, of the finest quality.

It is generally thought by those of the Northern States, that it is impossible to cultivate the tame grasses to any extent, as far South as Tennessee, but this is entirely an erroneous idea. Greasy Cove will produce as much hay per acre as Western New York, which is conceded by all to be equal to any part of the North for grass.

One meadow in the Cove, of 20 acres, has averaged for four years past, a ton of hay to the acre each year, while some acres cut two and a half and three tons. This meadow was seeded 33 years ago; is pastured every winter, and it lay in commons two years during the war.

Timothy, clover and redtop all do well for hay, while blue-grass makes excellent pasture. This latter grass seems to be perfectly natural to the lime-stone soil of this country whenever it has a chance to spring up, without sowing seed.

Orchard grass has not yet been cultivated to any great extent, but is a success as far as has been tried.

Fruits of all kinds do exceedingly well. The trees live to a great age and attain an astonishingly large growth.

Wild grasses grow in profusion, especially on the sides of the hills around the Cove, and it is no rare thing to see a grape vine reaching from the top of a hickory or poplar tree a hundred feet to the ground.

Among our forest trees are the poplar, sycamore, ash, pine, gum, beech, maple, oak, chestnut, cherry, walnut and hickory. Of these poplar grows the largest.

The chestnut and oak are next in size; the largest of these exceed 21 feet in circumference.

There are many curiosities in the Cove and on the surrounding hills, in the way of caves, water falls, bluffs, rocks, &c.

On this as well as other accounts this would make a good resort for semi-invalids, as there is plenty of sight seeing and no sameness or monotony. One can explore every day for a whole month and each day find something new. Under the sun and, indeed, this has been tried as an invalid resort a number of times, with beneficial results in every case.

This climate is especially healing to all throat and lung diseases, not excepting that inclined to consumption.

There about forty families living in the Cove, and all being desirous of a more dense population, those owning large farms are willing to part with a portion of their lands at from \$7 to \$15 per acre to induce Northern immigration.

Hoping you may conclude to come and examine this country for yourself,

I am yours respectfully,

F. A. STRATTON.

POLITICAL excitement in Louisiana has been at white heat for several days. Two bodies, each claiming to be legal, have been attempting to exercise the functions of a Legislature. The reports that have gone out from partisan sources have been so contradictory, that it has been impossible to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to the real facts existing. We trust that under Senator Sherman's resolution providing for investigation into Arkansas and Louisiana affairs, order may come out of chaos, and that the truth as it may be ascertained, and then right will prevail.

FROM NASHVILLE.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE READ.

Both Houses Organized and at Business

A Number of Bills and Petitions Offered

HOUSE COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

The Republicans Hold the Best Committees.

Special to the Chronicle.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 7—1:45, P. M.

The House, after five ballots, adjourned till two o'clock.

On the last ballot Houk (Republican) received 20 votes, Overton (Independent) 22, Lindsley (Independent) 7 and Trousdale (Democrat) 7; the balance scattering.

Kerr nominated Ward (Independent) as a compromise Johnson man, when the House adjourned until two o'clock.

The Senate had six ballots and then adjourned.

Johnson is not here and the Independents are unorganized.

On the last ballot in the Senate, Coulter (Democrat) received 10 votes, Jones (Republican) 6, and Leake (Independent) 4; the balance scattering.

LATER.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 7, 8:20 P. M.—In the Senate, on the forty-fourth ballot, Lacey, for Speaker, received 22; James, 2; White, 1. The Republicans voted solid for Lacey on the forty-third and forty-fourth ballot.

The Speaker elect is a Johnson Democrat, progressive and liberal, a successful merchant and sound on schools and finances. He is a native of Missouri, and has lived in Memphis eleven years. He is a Union man and was elected on the Independent ticket. His election gives satisfaction.

Howard was re-elected Clerk on first ballot.

Chas. White, of Hawkins county, was elected Engrossing Clerk on first ballot. After four ballots for Doorkeeper the Senate adjourned.

The House cast four ballots, the last of which stood, Houk 34, Overton 35, Ward 2. Nine Johnson men voted for Houk. Kerr and Boyd, Independents, held off. Tally, a Bourbon Democrat, arrives to night, making the result uncertain.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 7.

Lacey twice refused the bourbon nomination, so his election is regarded as a Johnson republican victory, and the extreme bournons are bitter and discouraged. If a like triumph is achieved in the House it permanently separates the Johnson wing and demoralizes the bournons. There is lively caucusing.

Lacey's election shelves Overton, who is also a West Tennessee man.

McFarland is the probable bourbon nominee.

LATER.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 8, 1873.

On the 24th ballot, at 2½ o'clock, P. M., the house elected Hon. W. S. McFarland, of Greene county, Speaker.

The vote on the last ballot stood, McFarland, 37; Trousdale, 9; balance scattering. Houk withdrew his name after the 20th ballot. The election of McFarland is a complete triumph of liberalism over the bournons and unites solid the Union element.

A few Johnsonites, to promote their own ends, could not be brought to the support of Houk, but the balance did all in their power to elect him. The result is a concession to Union Conservatives by the Republicans and is entirely satisfactory.

Neil S. Brown was elected Clerk of the House on first ballot, Thos. H. Reeves, of Jonesboro', withdrawing.

Wade, of Davidson county, Assistant Clerk of the last House was re-elected to that position. Williams was elected Engrossing Clerk.

Archie Thomas, of the Springfield Record, was elected Door Keeper of the Senate. [We say bully for Archie.—EDS. CHRONICLE.]

NASHVILLE, Jan. 9.

SENATE.

The following bills were offered:

A bill to compel Judges in criminal cases to deliver written charges.

A petition from Cooke to allow a vote as to a County site.

A petition for Hamilton county for a tax on dogs.

A bill postponing poll-tax law two years.

The Senate adopted rules for the session and appointed a committee on Immigration and one on commerce.

HOUSE.

The House completed an organization to-day. Landon H. Charles, of Hawkins, was elected Doorkeeper, and Carter, of Williamson, Assistant Doorkeeper. McCollum, Ward and Kerr were appointed a committee to notify the Governor of the organization of the House.

The following new bills were offered: By Williamson, suspending the law re-

quiring a poll tax receipt from voters for two years; by Cummings, repealing the act allowing the public printer to charge for the discount on State warrants; by Houk, reorganizing the common school system. This bill is voluminous, and provides for State and county superintendents district boards and imposes the tax two mills, besides the tax on saloons, &c., all the funds to be disbursed by the State Treasurer.

Kerr gave notice of a bill calling a convention for a new Constitution. The Comptroller submitted a lengthy report. Five hundred copies were ordered printed.

The resolution for furnishing three daily papers to members was lost by a vote of 30 to 32.

The Governor sent his message in at 4 o'clock and after a partial reading, was laid on the table and a thousand copies ordered printed. The message was seven columns long. The Governor fixes the amount of the State debt at less than \$21,250,000, and a steady increase by the non payment of interest; declares that payment of interest cannot longer be postponed; suggests the funding of the extra State debt, including the past due coupons in new bonds running forty years at 6 per cent.; gives as a reason for this new issue a detection of bonds fraudulently issued upon which interest might not be paid, and an opportunity offering for a system of registration; further recommends that the interest be paid only on the funded debt, and a provision be made for such payment to commence on the 1st of July, 1874; recommends the Legislature to declare whether the interest shall be paid on the bonds after maturity or till funded; estimates the taxable property of the State at \$500,000,000; expresses opinion that without increasing the rate of taxation, by the adoption of measures insuring proper assessments and prompt collections, revenues sufficient can be raised to defray the expenses of the State government and pay the interest on the public debt; makes a recommendation with a view to improve the system of assessments and taxation, and points out additional sources of revenue; declares the problem whether the State can support public schools without bankrupting the people has been solved, approves of the county system adopted two years ago, if the Legislature fosters this system recommends the appointment of a State superintendent, and if necessary a State educational board, after providing for the State debt the Legislature can determine how great a levy for public schools be added; recommends that Congress be memorialized for a proportionate part in the public domain, as a fund for education; submits the matter of a proper system to legislative discretion; recommends appropriations for a system of charitable institutions for the State, amendments to the criminal laws, provisions for better public roads, and various other matters of interest to the State.

Hughes offered a resolution for a convention of the two Houses next Tuesday, to elect State officers.

Frierson offered a resolution for a joint committee to settle upon the officers before the election. Both resolutions lie over under the rules.

Leach, Williamson, McFarland, Pearson and Kerr are the committee on rules. Adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 10—7, P. M.

SENATE.

The committees were announced to-day.

The chairmen are as follows:

Finance—Hughes, (Ind.)

Claims—Robertson, (Ind.)

Schools—Jones, (Rep.)

Judiciary—Smithson, (Ind.)

Internal Improvements—Tillman, Dem.

Military—Patton, (Rep.)

New Counties—Morgan, (Rep.)

Penitentiary—Warren, (Dem.)

Banks—Richardson, (Dem.)

Federal Relations—Leake, (Ind.)

Roads—Melton, (Rep.)

Enrolled Bills—Coulter, (Dem.)

Public Grounds—White, (Ind.)

Charitable Institutions—Moody, (Dem.)

Agriculture—Allison, (Dem.)

Printing—Brandon, (Dem.)

Commerce—James, (Dem.)

Immigration—McConnell, (Rep.) of Blount.

Redistricting the State—Snipes, (Dem.); Jones, (Rep.); Morgan, (Rep.); Richards, (Rep.); White, (Dem.); Roberts, (Dem.)

The Senate Committees are largely in the hands of the Independents and Republicans.

Bills were introduced to provide civil officers with copies of the statutes and dispense with juries when neither party demands it.

HOUSE.

By Houk, (Rep.)—A bill to settle with school teachers and superintendents under the law of 1867.

By Snyder, (Rep.)—A petition from Chattanooga for schools.

Bills were introduced to prevent magistrates from holding offices of trust, created by them while members of the County Court.

A bill to protect cemeteries.

A bill making mortgages and deeds of trust, circulating medium the same as inland bills of exchange.

A bill to pay Attorney Generals a fixed salary, and to regulate bills of cost.

A resolution passed to include a Hebrew Minister among the clergymen to officiate in the House.

Allen McTeer, of Blount, was appointed assistant porter.

A bill to regulate the percentage of revenue collectors at 4 per cent. on \$10,000 and 2 per cent. on all over that. The poll tax bill passed second reading without opposition in the House.

It was resolved to postpone the election of State officers to the 17th inst.

A bill prohibiting Insurance Companies from doing business in Tennessee unless they waive the right to remove suits from the State to the Federal Courts.

Williams, Frierson and Jeup were appointed to settle with the State officers.

HOUSE.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 13, 9:20, P. M. The House committees are liberally distributed. The Republicans and Independents are in the majority, with W. T. Williamson, of Shelby, chairman of the Committee on Education and Schools; L. C. Houk, chairman of the Committee on Finance and Ways and Means, and W. J. McFarland, of Humboldt, chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

The Republicans are well pleased.

J. B. Jeup, of Nashville, Chairman of the Committee on Immigration, in a good appointment.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Proceedings of the Second Session of the Forty-Second Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.

Sherman called up his resolution regarding the elections in Louisiana and Arkansas, to-day. Thurman, Frelinghuysen and Trumbull have spoken and the discussion is progressing.

Sherman's resolution regarding Louisiana and Arkansas was passed. It empowers the Committee to send for persons and papers, and to deputize persons to take evidence.

\$20,000 were appropriated for the expenses of the Committee on Election Privileges for the Louisiana and Arkansas elections.

The bill abolishing the franking privilege was again up.

A bill authorizing postmasters to make their deposits in National banks. Passed.

A bill authorizing collectors and custom officers to act in certain cases as disbursing officers. Passed.

Mr. Lynch, of Maine, by announcement, introduced an amendment to the shipping act, extending certain rights granted to masters of coasting vessels to those engaged in trade with British Provinces, the West India Islands and Mexico. Passed.

This being private bill day a large number of such bills were received from committees.

The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill was considered.

An amendment to increase the appropriation for the Bureau of Education was, after considerable discussion, rejected.

The appropriation for the purchase and distribution of seeds for the Agricultural Bureau was increased from fifty to seventy-five thousand dollars.

Upon the question of appropriating four hundred thousand dollars to pay the judgments of the Court of Claims, an amendment was offered providing that no part of it shall be applied to judgments for the proceeds of captured or abandoned property seized before the 20th of June, 1865, and that no such judgment shall be paid, except under special appropriation by Congress.

HOME NEWS.

The Wharton Trial Postponed.

Immigration of the Governor of Louisiana.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 10.—The court overruled the demurrer to the indictment, when Mrs. Wharton pleaded not guilty, and the case was postponed on account of the absence of Mrs. Childon, of Richmond, a witness for the defense.

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—The message of the Governor says Illinois is substantially free from debt.

VIRGINIA CITY, Jan. 10.—A caucus nominated Jones to succeed Nye.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 10.—The preliminary survey of the Texas Pacific Railroad is completed from San Diego to Fort Yuma. The surveying party are going east to join Col. Scott's surveying expedition from Texas. The practicability of a route from San Diego to Fort Yuma is demonstrated.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 10.—The Republican caucus nominated Gov. Oglesby for Senator.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—There is some excitement at Poughkeepsie at the discovery that the ex-County Treasurer, who is now under arrest, defrauded the county of about \$150,000.

Rev. Dr. Hare, Episcopal Bishop to the Indians, was consecrated at the St. Louis Church last night. Twelve Bishops participated in the consecration.

J. H. Wells, a well known railroad contractor, died at Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday.

PORT JARVIS, Jan. 10.—A freight train ran into the rear of a passenger train near Callisnoo, on the Erie Road, this morning, completely demolishing the rear car and injuring the bumpers of other cars so that they could not be uncoupled. One passenger, named Fred K. Hoffman, had a leg broken. No others were injured.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 10.—Six Senators who had taken seats in the Pinchbeck Legislature have withdrawn and taken seats in the Fusion Senate, and have published an address giving reasons for doing so and disclosing the irregularities attending the formation of the former body, which they could not endorse.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 13.—The inauguration ceremonies passed off quietly.

The weather is clear and pleasant.

McEnry was inaugurated in Lafayette Square. Several thousand persons were present, including many ladies. The ceremonies opened with prayer by Bishop Wilmer. The valedictory was delivered by Bishop Pierce and followed by the inaugural address by McEnry. The oath of office was then administered, and the ceremonies were concluded with benediction by Rev. J. K. Gethim.

Kellogg was inaugurated at Mechanics Institute, the doors of which are still guarded by United States soldiers. The Senators repaired to the hall of the House, where acting Gov. Pinchback delivered a short valedictory, followed by Kellogg's inaugural. About fifteen hundred persons were present, three-fourths colored.

Judge Humphreys, District Judge here, and Judge Busteed, exchange places. Both have resigned and have been nominated to each other's places.

FOREIGN.

AN EPITOME OF SPANISH AFFAIRS.

Bard's Nomination Withdrawn—Louisiana Affairs, &c.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The President withdrew the nomination of Gov. Bard as postmaster at Chattanooga today, at his own request.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections agreed to send the sub-committee to Louisiana and Arkansas to inquire into the elections in these States.

The Senate confirmed McDowell vice Meade, deceased.

There is much discussion in Republican circles regarding the Louisiana complication. Many favor a joint Congressional Committee to investigate fully, with a view to report to Congress which is the legitimate State Government.

The views of the Government of the United States, in regard to the vacillating course of Spain, concerning emancipation and other reforms, as set forth in a letter from Secretary Fish to General Siskies, our Minister at Madrid, have been made public. The United States complains at the tardiness of Spain, and instructs General Siskies to press the grievances of this Government strongly, as longer delay on the part of the Spanish Government would cause a change in the sentiment of the American people. The most important question aside from emancipation is the unsettled condition of Cuba, which seriously interrupts our commercial relations. The Secretary's letter was written in October last.

Erie Shares on the Decline.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—The rumor that the property restored to the Erie Railway Company was not paid for flattens the market for Erie shares, which closed at 50½; consols closed at 92½; both bonds, New 5's, 90½.

ROME, Jan. 11.—During the session of the Italian Chamber of Deputies yesterday, Signor Laus, Minister of the Interior, formally announced the death of Napoleon. He said that the Italian Government learned of the death of the ex-Emperor with deep regret; that it was impossible to forget Napoleon. He contributed greatly to secure the unity of Italy. The eulogistic remarks of the Minister were received with applause by the members.

PARIS, Jan. 11.—The Independent Belge publishes a letter from Count Von Bunsen in answer to the assertions of Duke De Grammont. The Count shows that Austria tried to dissuade France from going to war with Prussia, and explicitly reserved her right to remain neutral. France, after war was declared, asked for an audience and Austria refused.

In the Assembly this afternoon the debate on the Educational Council Bill was continued by Bishop Dupanloup, who spoke at great length. He was interrupted by an altercation between M. Laurent Pichat, a Radical, and De Cazes, a Conservative. Bitter words were exchanged, and there was much bad feeling. After the close of the sitting, two friends of the Radical called upon De Cazes and demanded an apology. The result is unknown, but a duel is probable.

President Thiers and a sub-committee of thirty have agreed to articles permitting the President to address the address the Assembly on certain specified occasions, and giving him a restricted veto power on legislation. Other basis for a consultation.

The Journal officially announces the appointment of Coerselles as the French ambassador at the Vatican in place of Bourgoing, who resigned.

MADRID, Jan. 11.—A large body of Carlists insurgents yesterday approached the town of Tarfallo, twenty miles from Pamplona. They were attacked with vigor by the troops and driven back.

A rupture has taken place in the left centre. At the meeting to-day of deputies belonging to that party, Christophe, Radical, was elected President, whereupon Cassinor Periers and his friends immediately withdrew and joined the right. It is said that Bonapartist deputies will also unite with the right.

Strawberry Plains Items.

The weather has been intensely cold for the past few days.

A few young men of the village and vicinity met at the brick Academy last night and organized a debating society; Prof. J. M. Davidson was elected President and William French, Jr., Secretary.

Charley, a candidate for Aldermanic honors in your town, paid us a flying visit Thursday last. He is looking well and seems very confident that he will soon be one of your city fathers. Some may think Charley's looks too dark for a venerable father, but if elected you can call him our young "daddy."

Our young folks have had a jolly time Christmas, having enjoyed nearly a dozen parties in the past three weeks. The grand party, to come off soon at Castle Douglas on Tuckahoe, is expected to cap the climax of the season.

At one time, while the "zootie" was raging, a party was to be given a few miles out of town, and not a sufficient number of horses could be had to draw the vehicles, a pair of gentle bovines driven by one of our literati, did good service in conveying a number of our young ladies to and from the scene of enjoyment.

Families are still leaving this vicinity for West Tennessee.

Fifty men are getting out stores in "Flat W. A." for the European market. The stores are shipped from the place to Norfolk, where they command about one hundred dollars per thousand.

Many big stories are in circulation through the country in regard to small pox in your city.

Notwithstanding our late consignment to the "Old Dominion," tell your young folks of boot and shoe fame, that we hope they will still continue their visits to our town, for they are ever welcome, and the string of the latch is always hanging out.

Jan. 11, 1873.

RALPH.